

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 1 and 3-23 are presently pending in this case. Claims 1, 11 and 15 are amended, and new Claims 20-23 are added by the present amendment. As amended Claims 1, 11, and 15, and new Claims 20-23 are supported by the original disclosure,¹ no new matter is added.

In the outstanding Official Action, Claim 15 was objected to and Claims 1 and 3-19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Tohya et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,636,703, hereinafter "Tohya").

With regard to the objection to Claim 15, Claim 15 is amended to recite "second engaging means." Accordingly, the objection to Claim 15 is believed to be overcome.

With regard to the rejection of Claim 1 as anticipated by Tohya, that rejection is respectfully traversed.

Amended Claims 1 and 11 recite a battery device comprising, *inter alia*:

a charging unit ***fixed*** inside the case; and
a battery side terminal disposed on the front surface of the case and connected to the battery through the charging unit, ***the battery side terminal configured to connect to a housing chamber side terminal of the electronic device to provide electric power to the charging unit from the electronic device as said charging unit charges and to provide electric power from the charging unit to the electronic device through the battery side terminal as the charging unit discharges.***

Tohya describes a charging apparatus including a cell accommodation frame structure 1 and a power supply casing 3 for charging batteries 101-104.² The outstanding Office Action cited a charging circuit within power supply casing 3 as "a charging unit" and contact strips 13A, 13B, 14A, 14B, 34A, 34B, 35A, 35B, 36A, and 36B of Tohya as "a battery side

¹See, e.g., the specification at page 6, lines 7-16 and Figures 1A and 2A.

²See Tohya, abstract and Figures 1A and 4.

terminal.”³ However, Tohya clearly describes that the device is used to charge cells, not discharge them.⁴ Thus, although contact strips 34A, 34B, 35A, and 35B of Tohya may be in contact with the charging circuit within power supply casing 3, the charging circuit within power supply casing 3 ***never charges or discharges***, it simply passes on transformed and rectified power from power supply plug 32 to the contact strips.⁵ Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the charging circuit within power supply casing 3 of Tohya cannot be “a charging unit” as defined in amended Claims 1 and 11. Further, all of the contact strips contact batteries 101-104. Thus, none of the contact strips connect to a housing chamber side terminal of an electronic device to provide electric power to a charging unit from an electronic device as the charging unit charges, or provide electric power from the charging unit to the electronic device through the battery side terminal as the charging unit discharges. In fact, power is only provided in one direction, from power supply casing 3 to batteries 101-104. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that none of the contact strips of Tohya can be “a battery side terminal” as defined in amended Claims 1 and 11. Consequently, Claims 1 and 11 (and Claims 3-10 and 12-23 dependent therefrom) are not anticipated by Tohya and are patentable thereover.

New Claims 20-23 are supported at least by Figure 1B. New Claims 20-23 are dependent on Claims 1 and 11, and thus are believed to be patentable for at least the reasons described above with respect to Claims 1 and 11. In addition, Claims 20-23 recite subject matter that further patentably defines over Tohya. In particular, the outstanding Office Action cited frame structure 1 of Tohya as “a case” and recesses 16 on opposite sides of frame structure 1 as “a first engaging recessed part” and “a second engaging recessed part.”⁶ However, Figure 1A of Tohya clearly shows that recesses 16 are ***not*** open to a front surface,

³See the outstanding Office Action at page 3, lines 17-21.

⁴See Tohya, Summary of the Invention.

⁵See Tohya, column 5, lines 1-6.

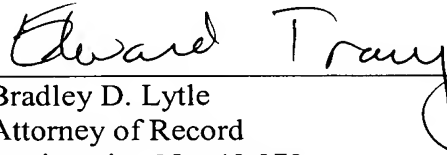
⁶See the outstanding Office Action at page 3, lines 17-21.

an upper surface, and a corresponding side surface as recited in new Claims 20 and 22, as recesses 16 are in the middle of their respective surfaces. Further, Figure 1A of Tohya also clearly shows that recesses 16 do **not** include a flat surface parallel to both the upper surface and the lower surface as recited in new Claims 21 and 23. Consequently, new Claims 20-23 further patentably define over Tohya.

Accordingly, the pending claims are believed to be in condition for formal allowance. An early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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